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minal is applied to the payment of his expenses of maintainance, then to make restitution to the persons he has injured, and afterward to reimburse the county for the costs of his prosecution. Whatever remains, and it sometimes amounts to a handsome sum, is given to the offender on his liberation. He has thus had his morals probably considerably improved, and is turned out, with an opportunity to retrieve his shattered character, by future good conduct, and with a stock to assist his industry. If such a system could be realized in these countries, I think it would answer much better, and be of more practicable attainment, than a plan of a refuge for prisoners. It is very commendable in W. L. to offer his hints, for by a free communication of hints, and free comments on these hints, the science and practice of benevolence may be materially promoted and improved.

K.

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*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

OF THE ASSAULT ON JOSEPH PETERS  
RICKMAN.

ON reading in the last month's magazine, the trial of Samuel Penrose, for the assault of Joseph Peters Rickman, in Cork, I was surprised to see at the conclusion of a note attached to it, something like a censure passed on the Quakers, for not *publicly* expressing their disapprobation of the cruel treatment of the prosecutor.

The author of this note may know the society are not in the practice of *printing* such publications. They however, ordered one of their members to *publish* on the evening of the same day, in their meeting for public worship, "that the transaction of the morning had taken place without their previous knowledge, and

*entirely without their approbation or sanction*—this they thought the least they could say to clear themselves of any imputation of blame which those of other societies might attach to them, saying also, that neither the person who had been treated in that manner, nor the person who had treated him so, were members of their society."

The Quakers also appear to be censured for not adhering to their own doctrine of forbearance. In this instance they have exercised some patience in quietly and repeatedly hearing a person of this description haranguing them "almost during the whole time of meeting." It is but common justice not to censure indiscriminately. As the proprietors of the Magazine profess to be the friends of free discussion, it is hoped they will not refuse to remove the censure thrown on a society, blameless in this instance. They cannot be accountable for the conduct of those not of their communion, which S. Penrose is not. From all the information I can collect, the only step taken against Rickman by the society, previous to the affair alluded to, was, to inform the people at the conclusion of his vehement sermons—that he was not a member of their society.

A friend to liberality, M.

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A letter was subjoined, giving a circumstantial account of the transaction, but as it differs little from the statement already published, and confirms the account of the cruelty of the traverser, it is not thought necessary to publish it, unless it is particularly desired. It is pleasing to find that the transaction was publicly censured by the society, but no trace of such disapprobation appeared in the account published in the newspapers. B.M.M.